

EXHIBIT "A"

CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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JAN 12 2005

**Disclosure AUS8-2000-0652**

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Summary

Status	Under Evaluation
Processing Location	AUS
Functional Area	58 - TIVOLI (B. Yefin, David Murphy, L. Wilczak, J. Ciulla, Jim Hilbert)
Attorney/Patent Professional	Jeff LaBaw/Austin/IBM
IDT Team	John Sweltzer/Tivoli Systems; Sebastian Hassinger/Tivoli Systems; Nicole Harbour/Tivoli Systems
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Owning Division	TIV
PVT Score	To calculate a PVT score, use the 'Calculate PVT' button.
Incentive Program	
Lab	
Technology Code	

Inventors with Lotus Notes IDs

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Inventor Name > denotes primary contact	Inventor Serial	Div/Dept	Manager Serial	Manager Name
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Inventors without Lotus Notes IDs**IDT Selection**

IDT Team	Attorney/Patent Professional
John Sweltzer/Tivoli Systems	Jeff LaBaw/Austin/IBM
Sebastian Hassinger/Tivoli Systems	
Nicole Harbour/Tivoli Systems	

Response Due to P&L [REDACTED]

Main Idea

*Title of disclosure (in English):

Picture of customer on customer-printed e-tickets, traveler's checks etc. as a security measure.

*Idea of disclosure:

1. Describe your invention, stating the problem solved (if appropriate), and indicating the advantages of using the invention.

Problem

Electronic tickets printed by the buyer at his computer are being introduced by E-Stamp.com and Ticketmaster.com as the article given in the appendix explains. Electronic tickets can typically be in the form of entries to concerts, movies or for that matter postage stamps. It is likely that in the future traveler's checks and for that matter equivalents of currency bills etc. will be issued electronically. We are referring to all these forms as e-tickets for the purpose of the invention.

In many situations the buyer of the electronic ticket who prints it on his home computer would like to prevent its loss. Hence the problem is:

How to improve the security of an e-ticket (e.g. a traveller's check) when it is printed at a buyer's home computer.

Solution

A photograph and/or signature would be inserted into the e-ticket by the buyer at the time of printing on his home computer. Optionally, this photograph or signature would be transmitted to the selling Web server.

The photograph would typically be digital. The signature can be an optically scanned handwritten signature (i.e. a signature that has been digitized). Since such mechanisms incrementally advance existing technology they are likely to gain acceptance easily. Alternative means such as printing the buyers smartcard, drivers ID or passport number etc. on such printed tickets could be also claimed.

Generally such a system would be advantageous for use in situation where the e-ticket (e.g. a traveller's check) should not be a negotiable instrument for anyone except for the buyer.

Claims

Method to augment e-ticket printed electronically at customer site with

1. photograph provided by customer.
2. scanned signature provided by customer
3. smartcard/drivers ID/Passport information provided by customer

(more general claim) any buyer chosen security measure that the buyer feels comfortable with and that can be easily verified by acceptors of the e-ticket.

Prior art

In Canada apparently there is a system to print one's picture on postage stamps (and get it delivered after printing at a printer) and it has an issued patent. I don't think that would anticipate the current invention.

Appendix

Wednesday February 02 12:15 AM EST
Toot-Toot Ticket Booth Good-bye?
Jennifer Couzin

The next endangered species could be the person behind the ticket window. E-Stamp.com and Ticketmaster.com both unveiled technologies last week that enable consumers to print tickets (and, in the case of E-Stamp.com, gift certificates) at home. E-stamp plans to license its technology and is looking to partner with entertainment and event companies, among others; Ticketmaster.com has outfitted several venues, including the Staples Stadium in Los Angeles, with bar-code machines that recognize printed tickets, and expects customers to begin using them in April. Other Netcos are watching the experiment closely.

E-Stamp, which received approval from the U.S. Postal Service last August for its stamp-printing service, touts the marketing potential of a bar code packed with customer information. Instead of tearing a ticket and handing the customer a stub, movie theater owners, for example, could gather a wealth of data by scanning the home-printed ticket - everything from the genre of movie or musician a customer enjoys to his or her time of arrival at a sports event.

It's no surprise that both companies assure that tickets and gift certificates are fraud-proof; to print postage, E-Stamp.com had to undergo rigorous government scrutiny, and its recent expansion relies on the same technology.

But confidence in the system is not yet unanimous. "Somewhere in some dark corner, there's a guy who's going to figure out that he can get free tickets, or free stamps," says Richard Power, editorial director of the San Francisco-based Computer Security Institute. However, even if someone cracks tough encryption technologies protecting bar codes, or if opportunists scalp 50 photocopies of their ticket, the venture may be profitable enough that companies can afford a few cheats.

Netcos also question the degree of vendor interest in printable tickets. TicketWeb.com, another online ticketer, says it has found little enthusiasm among vendors, who are reluctant to invest in machines recognizing phony or duplicate tickets. Ticketmaster disagrees.

"I personally know of several dozen" vendors thrilled with the technology, says Tom Stockham, general manager of Ticketmaster.com, though he said he could not name them pending a formal announcement.

Despite potential pitfalls, enthusiasm over what's essentially printable money abounds. FreeShop.com, a direct-marketing site, plans to have printable coupons available in a few months, with bar-coded ones hitting the site sometime afterward. GiftCertificates.com is also considering joining the fray.

2. How does the invention solve the problem or achieve an advantage,(a description of "the invention", including figures inline as appropriate)?

3. If the same advantage or problem has been identified by others (inside/outside IBM), how have those others solved it and does your solution differ and why is it better?

4. If the invention is implemented in a product or prototype, include technical details, purpose, disclosure details to others and the date of that implementation.

***Critical Questions (Questions 1 - 7 must be answered)**

Question 1	
On what date was the invention workable? <input type="text"/> Please format the date as MM/DD/YYYY. Workable means the when you know that your design will solve the problem.	
Question 2	
Is there any planned or actual publication or disclosure of your invention to anyone outside IBM?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
If yes, Enter the name of each publication or patent and the date published below.	
Publication/Patent	
Date Published/Issued	
Are you aware of any publications, products or patents that relate to this invention?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

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If yes, Enter the name of each publication or patent and the date published below.

Publication/Patent: _____

Date Published/Issued: _____

Question 3	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Has the subject matter of the invention or a product incorporating the invention been sold, used internally in manufacturing, announced for sale, or included in a proposal?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Is a sale, use in manufacturing, production announcement, or proposal planned?	<input type="radio"/> Yes
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
If Yes, identify the product if known and indicate the date of planned date of sale, announcement, or proposal and to whom the sale, announcement or proposal has been or will be made.	
Product: _____	
Version/Release: _____	
Code Name: _____	
Date: _____	
To Whom: _____	
If more than one, use cut and paste and append as necessary in the field provided.	

Question 4	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Was the subject matter of your invention or a product incorporating your invention used in public, e.g., outside IBM or in the presence of non-IBM's?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
If yes, give a date. Please format the date as MM/DD/YYYY.	

Question 5	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Have you ever discussed your invention with others not employed at IBM?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
If yes, identify individuals and date discussed. Fill in the text area with the following information: the names of the individuals, the employer, date discussed, under CDA and CDA.	

Question 6	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Was the invention in any way, started or developed under a government contract or order?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
If Yes, enter the contract number.	

Question 7	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Was the invention made in the course of any alliance, joint development or other contractual activities?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
<input type="radio"/> Not Sure	
If Yes, enter the following: Name of Alliance, Contractor or Joint Developer.	
Contract Number: _____	
Relationship/Contact Name: _____	
Relationship/Contact Email: _____	
Relationship/Contact Phone: _____	

Question 8	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Have you submitted, or are you aware of any related disclosure submission?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
If Yes, please provide the title and boiler or disclosure number below.	

Question 9
What type of companies do you expect to compete with your invention or this type? Check all that apply.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Manufacturers of PCs, servers, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manufacturers of printers, servers, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manufacturers of workstations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manufacturers of PCs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-computer manufacturers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Developers of operating systems
<input type="checkbox"/>	Developers of network software
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Developers of application software
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated solution providers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service providers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify below)

ticket providers, etc. ticketmaster, etc. and financial institutions providing travel checks, etc. American Express, Citicorp Bank of America.

Patent Value Tool (Optional - this may be used by the inventor and attorney to assist with the evaluation)

(The Patent Value tool can be used by you or the evaluation team to determine the potential licensing value of your invention.)

The Patent Value Tool has not yet been used to calculate a score.

Post Disclosure Text & Drawings

Enter any additional information relating to this disclosure below:

(Form Revised 12/17/97)

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